

Serial No. 10/811,870

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently amended) A ~~valve assembly~~washer nozzle for a washer system, the ~~valve assembly~~washer nozzle comprising:

a ~~housing~~nozzle body that includes:

an inlet opening, from which washer fluid is inputted into the ~~housing~~nozzle body;

at least one ~~outlet~~discharge opening, from which the washer fluid is outputted from the ~~housing~~nozzle body; and

a fluid passage that communicates between the inlet opening and the at least one ~~outlet~~discharge opening;

a check valve that is arranged in the fluid passage of the ~~housing~~nozzle body, wherein the check valve permits forward flow of the washer fluid in a first direction from the inlet opening toward the at least one ~~outlet~~discharge opening and blocks backflow of the washer fluid in a second direction opposite from the first direction; and

a filter that is arranged in the fluid passage of the ~~housing~~nozzle body between the inlet opening and the check valve to filter the washer fluid.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently amended) The ~~valve assembly~~washer nozzle according to ~~claim 2~~claim 1, wherein:

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the nozzle body includes a first body part and a second body part, which are connected together;

the first body part includes the inlet opening and a first part of the fluid ~~passage;~~passage;
and

the second body part includes the at least one ~~outlet~~discharge opening and a second part of the fluid ~~passage;~~and

~~each of the at least one outlet opening is a discharge opening that discharges the washer~~
fluid passage.

4. (Currently amended) The ~~valve assembly~~washer nozzle according to ~~claim 2~~claim 1,
wherein:

the check valve is provided in the second body part; and

the filter is provided in the first body part.

5. (Currently amended) The ~~valve assembly~~washer nozzle according to ~~claim 2~~claim 1,
wherein:

the nozzle body includes a valve seat that is provided in the fluid passage and protrudes
in a direction away from the filter toward the check valve;

the check valve is seated against the valve seat when the check valve blocks the backflow
of the washer fluid in the second direction; and

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the check valve is lifted away from the valve seat when the check valve permits the forward flow of the washer fluid in the first direction.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently amended) The ~~valve assembly~~washer nozzle according to ~~claim 2~~claim 1, further comprising a spring that is provided in the fluid passage and urges the check valve toward the inlet opening.

8. (Canceled)

9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently amended) The ~~valve assembly~~washer nozzle according to claim 1, wherein the filter is formed integrally with a portion of the ~~housing~~nozzle body.

11-16 (Canceled)

17. (New) The washer nozzle according to claim 3, further comprising a resilient annular O-ring, wherein: the second body part includes at least one engaging portion; and the first body part includes at least one engaging portion, which is engaged with the at least one engaging

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portion of the second body part to connect the second body part and the first body part together and thereby to resiliently deform and to clamp the O-ring between the second body part and the first body part.

18. (New) The washer nozzle according to claim 1, wherein: the filter includes a plurality of filter holes; and a maximum width of each filter hole is smaller than an inner diameter of each of the at least one discharge opening.